P7 TA-PROV(2012)0246

EU trade negotiations with Japan

European Parliament resolution of 13 June 2012 on EU trade negotiations with Japan (2012/2651(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 3(1)(e) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
- having regard to Article 218(2) and (10) TFEU,
- having regard to the report by Copenhagen Economics entitled 'Assessment of barriers to trade and investment between the EU and Japan', published on 30 November 2009,
- having regard to the joint statement adopted at the 19th EU-Japan Summit held in Tokyo on 28 April 2010,
- having regard to the results of the Commission's public consultation on EU-Japan trade relations, published on 21 February 2011,
- having regard to the European Council conclusions of 24 and 25 March 2011,
- having regard to its resolution of 11 May 2011 on EU-Japan trade relations¹,
- having regard to the joint statement adopted at the 20th EU-Japan Summit held in Brussels on 28 May 2011,
- having regard to Rules 90(2) and 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas both the Council and the Commission have noted that Japan's capacity to remove regulatory barriers to trade is a precondition for launching negotiations on the EU-Japan trade agreement, thus fostering closer economic integration between the two strategic trading partners;
- B. whereas at the 20th EU-Japan Summit held on 28 May 2011 in Brussels, the summit leaders decided that the two sides would start discussions with a view to defining the scope and level of ambition of such negotiations;
- C. whereas a Scoping Group has been set up to assess the shared understanding on the scope and level of ambition of the potential trade negotiations between Japan and the EU;
- 1. Asks the Council not to authorise the opening of trade negotiations until Parliament has stated its position on the proposed negotiating mandate, on the basis of a report by the committee responsible;

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2011)0225.

2.	Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission for information.